

## ABSTRACT

The present invention features a system and method for establishing a secure communication channel between a client and an application server. In one embodiment, a ticket service generates a ticket having an identifier and a session key. A communications device 5 obtains the ticket from the ticket service and transmits the ticket to a client over a secure communication channel. The client transmits the identifier of the ticket to an application server over an application communication channel. The application server then obtains a copy of the session key of the ticket from the ticket service. Communications exchanged between the client and the application server over the application communication channel are then encrypted using the session key to establish the application communication channel as a secure communication 10 channel.

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